

Appl. No. 09/779,791

REMARKS

Rejection of the claims under 35 USC § 112:

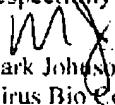
Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The action states that the amendment contains new matter.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to remove language that the Action states is new matter. Applicants have observed that a transduction signal will transport a molecule to which it is attached across a membrane in either direction, i.e., into or out of a cell. By providing an activated disulfide bond between the molecule and the transduction signal, once the linkage is cleaved, subsequent transduction signal-mediated transport of the molecule across a membrane is eliminated.

Support for the amendment is found in Example 10 on page 39 lines 17-19. Support for cleavage of the disulfide bond releasing the molecule is provided in the specification on page 1 lines 12-13. Applicants request reconsideration of the § 112 rejection.

The Examiner's rejections are now believed to be overcome by this response to the Office Action. In view of Applicants' amendment and arguments, it is submitted that claims 1-6 and 13 should be allowable. Applicants respectfully request a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in the case.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: March 4, 2006.

  
Mark Johnson